



Small Worlds Around Us

By Lynn W. Watkins
(Register & Tribune Syndicate, 1962)

If the Door Is Closed, the Odds Are That He's Home. Talk about a dilemma. Imagine a ridiculous situation that concerns a door that can only be closed from the inside, a seemingly impossible condition where the occupant of this house with the one way door can't close the door if he or she is on the outside. This house has walls, ceiling and a floor, as well as a doorway and a door, but the silly thing is attached to the house owner's foot, of all places, and the foot is more a body than a pedal extremity.

The character harnessed with this single purpose door is a univalve—a mollusk, or what we call a seashell-whose slimy home consists of a single shell. The univalves comprise the majority of the mollusk family.

Whelks, conchs and snails belong to this order, along with many other shell creatures. To move or feed, or to search for a mate, these mollusks lumber along the sea's bottom on their single toothless "foot." Attached to the foot is a horny operculum, or door, which completely and effectively closes the single opening in the shell when the animal draws its body inside. Attached as it is to the foot, which comes inside last, the operculum closes out the outside world with the owner safely locked inside.

These operculums, which could as correctly be called lids or trapdoors, come in a wide assortment of sizes and shapes. In some univalve shells the operculum forms upon the embryo while still in the egg. The nucleus is the first early layer of chitin to be formed, with succeeding layers growing from below to accommodate the ever-enlarging shell as the animal within grows.

Like a cork in a bottle, the lid fits so tightly that not even air or water can enter. But the mollusk needs very little air; it can live closed in for hours without becoming short of breath. Inside the fortress, with the door closed, the soft bodied animal is reasonably safe, but the trouble is it has no idea what is going on in the outside world. It must believe that anyone that knocks on its door is an enemy so it remains closed. There are, however, mollusks with sharp raspy tongues that can drill a hole in the shell and suck out the shell owner's body juices.

No Way Out. The one big disadvantage of its home, seen from our human viewpoint, is the fact that every time the mollusk withdraws into the inner recess of its home, and the door closes, it is nearly insensible to all outside influences. Someone may come along, pick up the shell and carry it and its secluded occupant away. A heavy object may crush the shell; a strong wave may roll it along the ocean floor.

If, however, conditions remain favorable, the animal will push itself out, thereby opening wide the door. But it will respond to any vibrations in the water, even become alarmed at a sudden noise, and hurriedly withdraw into the shell pulling the door closed from the inside. When this silly door is closed the occupant of the shell is always home, for this is a one way door. It never can be closed from the outside.

Perhaps when this character does withdraw itself, and the door is tightly closed, it says to itself, "I wonder where everybody went?"

Nehru Sends Urgent Request for Help

Washington—UPI—Prime Minister Jawaharlal Nehru of India sent President Kennedy an urgent request Monday for more U.S. arms to fight Communist China's border assaults.

B. K. Nehru, the Indian ambassador to the United States, brought the message to the White House in an unscheduled visit and told newsmen the military situation was very bad.

He said the prime minister's letter said the need for more arms is urgent. The ambassador said India also has asked for help from other nations, especially Great Britain and Canada, but not Russia. The ambassador declined to give details of the aid requested beyond saying it included some transport aircraft.

The United States already has sent tons of equipment—primarily small arms—to India.



GIRL GUARDED—A little girl who identified herself only as "Toiya" is guarded by her dog, Dutchess, at a Hollywood, Calif., police station. Officers found the pair wandering on the streets alone and took them to the station. Later Mrs. Dickie Huggins telephoned to say a little girl left in her care had wandered away. The girl's name is Toiya Ann Houska. She and her parents were reunited. (UPI)

The Medical Roundup

by *Walter Alvarez*
Emeritus Consultant in Medicine
Mayo Clinic
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(Register and Tribune Syndicate, 1962)

Electroshock Treatments

Many anxious people write asking about electroshock treatments: when they should be used, how many they cure, and how many should be given and when the patient's memory is impaired, will it come back? Actually, in a number of cases, I have seen four or five electroshock treatments work a miracle. A woman who perhaps was so depressed that she paid little attention to her children, her husband or her home, after the electroshocks went merrily about her work again. It is true that most people who have just had some of these treatments note some deterioration of their memory, but able psychiatrists have assured me that the person's memory should come back.

I personally prefer to see a patient have only a few treatments. If these don't help, I often wonder whether more will, but I am not an expert in this field, and I have heard of cases in which improvement did come after many treatments. Some people are afraid of electroshocks because they have heard of the broken bones which used to follow the treatments which were made many years ago with overly powerful electric currents. Today, a much better type of current is used, and it is on for only a moment. Since the change was made in the technique, I have not heard of any cases of broken bones. With the modern treatment, a person just stiffens for a moment and that is all.

Feels Nothing. Persons who have to undergo the treatments usually fear that the shocks will cause pain, but actually the person is unconscious the moment the current is turned on and hence he feels nothing.

People ask me to tell them why electroshocks work, and I cannot. I doubt if anyone can tell. We do know, however, that when the brain is suddenly shocked, its functions can be greatly improved. Nervous patients of mine have told me of remarkable cures they experienced when they were perhaps in a bad auto accident. I remember a woman with terrible migraines which came every other day or so and who was instantly cured when she fell and broke her hip.

Thomas H. Huxley once was in the depths of one of the depressions to which he was subject, and unable to work, when he read something which greatly angered him. With this, he stormed up and down his house, cursing the writer of the article. Then

he sat down to compose an attack on the man, and by the time he got done he was out of his depression and feeling well!

In his booklet, "When Mental Illness Strikes a Family," Dr. Alvarez suggests ways the family can help the patient in a mental hospital. You may obtain this booklet by sending 25 cents and a stamped, self-addressed envelope with your request to Dr. Walter C. Alvarez, Dept. MMT, The Register and Tribune Syndicate, Box 957, Des Moines 4, Iowa.

HAS PERMANENT COLD
London—UPI—Mrs. Kathleen Swinchatt, 33, was awarded \$4,500 damages Monday for an automobile accident which left her with a "permanent cold." The woman told a court she had been sniffing and sneezing for three years since the accident and doctors told her that the malady would remain for the rest of her life.

Additional Expenses Listed for Morse

Salem—UPI—Additional expense reports for the campaign of Sen. Wayne Morse (D-Ore.) were filed Monday but the State Elections division said an audit will be required before the grand total is known.

The division indicated earlier that some \$72,780 had been added. This would have upped total cost of the Morse campaign to \$216,961.

Several items were being checked. For one, the Morse campaign fund while showing a \$146,181 expense listed only \$76,671 in supporting data. The fund also showed a \$10,000 contribution from the Committee to Preserve Democracy in Oregon, but the committee's expense report is not in.

Some \$132,332 was spent by the Republican Senatorial candidate, Sig Unander, Portland.

Modest Increase in Economic Activity For 1963 Predicted

Washington—UPI—Dr. Rex F. Daly, an Agriculture Department economist, foresees a modest gain in the nation's overall economic activity for 1963.

Daly made this prediction at the 40th annual Agricultural Outlook Conference. His optimism was in face of a slowdown and mixed trends for major business indicators in recent months.

He said prospective increases in purchases by consumers, businessmen, and the government will cause some increase in economic activity next year.

Farm Income Stable

Dr. Frederick V. Waugh, another department economist, told conference delegates that farm income next year would be about the same as in 1962. He described the 1962 farm income situation and said "the outlook... in 1963 looks like more of the same."

"We see no reason to expect any significant change, either up or down, in realized net income of farm operators next year," Waugh said. "Barring any major change in the international situation, we expect 1963 to be another year of relative stability in farm output, in the domestic and foreign demand for farm products, and in aggregate net realized farm income."

Secretary of Agriculture Orville L. Freeman spelled out at the outlook conference what he believes the size of basic crop reserves, or surpluses, should be in a tension-filled world.

Some reserves should be greater, some less, Freeman said.

He estimated desirable reserves would be 600 million bushels of wheat, more than 45 million tons of feed grains, and more than 6 million bales of cotton. Present reserves are more than 1.2 billion bushels of wheat, 71 million bushels of feed grains, and 7.8 million bales of cotton.

He said stock levels for some other commodities—such as soybeans and dry edible beans—were perhaps too low to provide for the kinds of emergency conditions we might face.

Freeman did not set a desirable reserve figure for soybeans, but he indicated the present carry-over of 55-60 million bushels was too low. That amount is only about one month's supply.

While the department has taken no stand on a desirable soybean carryover, some officials have mentioned 75 to 100 million bushels as the proper amount. If the carry-over goal were set at 100 million bushels, an increase in price support for the commodity might be necessary. And if the price support were increased, there is a possibility the export trade in soybeans would suffer. They might be too expensive for overseas buyers.

White House Aides Must Report Talks

Washington—UPI—The administration requirement that government officials report their talks with newsmen also applies to the White House.

Press Secretary Pierre Salinger was asked at a briefing Monday if the newly instituted policy at the state and defense departments of requiring officials to report their conversations with reporters to public information officials also extended to the White House.

He said the White House had such a policy which goes back to January, 1961, the beginning of the Kennedy administration. He said that White House aides are asked to report their conversations with reporters to him.



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Polish Tourists Defect To West

Copenhagen, Denmark—UPI—Fifteen passengers aboard a Polish tourist liner have defected to the West, police sources said today.

Police said nine have asked for political asylum and the other six are expected to do so within the next 24 hours.

The 15 were said to have been among 80 passengers who arrived here aboard the Polish liner "Mazowze." The liner sailed back to Poland Monday night with only 65 passengers aboard.

It was thought the missing six passengers may go to Norway or Sweden, which have no passport control with Denmark. If found there, they will be returned to Denmark, where defectors from Communist nations usually receive asylum or are allowed to go to any Western country they choose.

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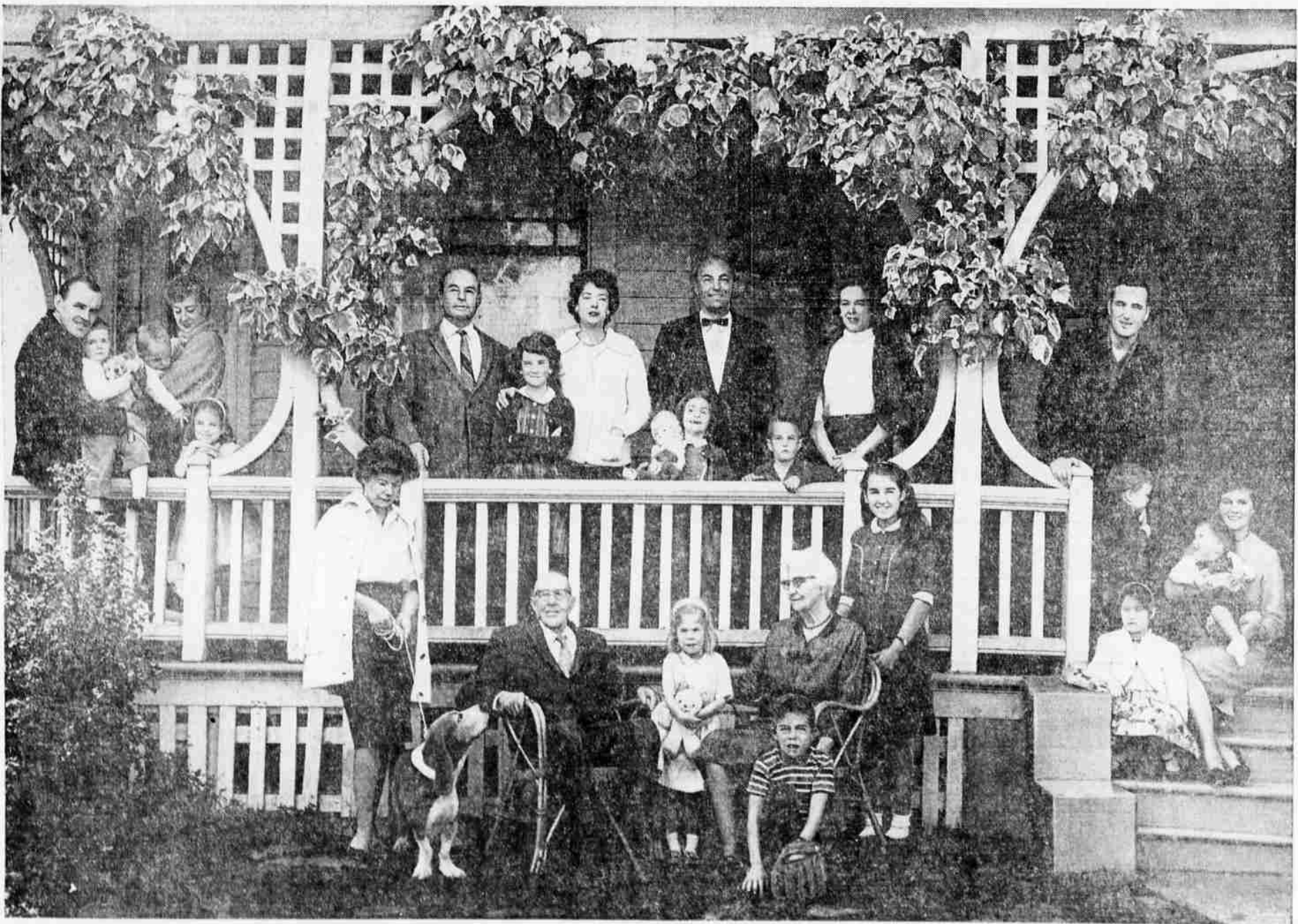
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Family reunions are fun (but you can have them more often by phone)

Grand old American tradition, the family reunion! A happy time, too—especially for the youngsters. But most family reunions take time, and travel, and a lot of planning. In these days of wide distances between families, many people use the telephone to keep the family close, to get everyone together more often. For example, a long distance Conference Call* (see right) is an easy, inexpensive way to have a reunion—and just about the next best thing to being there. Use long distance to have your next family reunion.



*Friends want family reunion with a Conference Call. For example, families in Seattle (1), Eugene (2), Spokane (3), Walla Walla (4) and Portland (5) can talk to each other just as easily as if they were all on the same front porch. All the long distance operators to help you get your family together with a long distance Conference Call.

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